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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, NOV. 21, 1908.

IT IS A LOCAL QUESTION.

The "hearings" on the tariff are practically useless. They shed no light on the subject. Only those things that were well known before are developed. Everybody concedes that the tariff ought to be revised, but everybody wants "protection" for himself, or for the industry which he pursues.

This fact has no relation to political parties. It is not possible to divide political parties on the tariff. Your Democrat, in the wool or sugar or lumber district, in the coal or iron or cotton manufacture district, is just as anxious for protection as the Republican. All want protection for themselves, but think free trade would be excellent for others. Districts that send Democrats to Congress by enormous majorities—practically by unanimous vote—are insistent on continuance of protection for their own specialties. Their members in Congress will combine for support of the general system of protection, in order to assure continuation of protection for the products of their own districts.

Parties, therefore, do not divide on the tariff. Where, therefore, is their main line of division? It is on the great constitutional questions which have racked the country from the beginning of its history; the fermentation of which produced the Civil War. But they are gradually fading out. Still, they were the controlling forces in the recent political contest. If not, how are you to account for the still Solid South?

But it is passing away. Everything passes away—except human interest in the industrial life of the present time. This is continually changing, too. Some districts that now are for protection will change to free trade, others that now are for free trade will change to protection, as development of various interests within their borders may point the way or demand. Democrats in Oregon have become Republicans, because they want to continue protection of their interest in wool, or, in certain situations, of lumber. This, doubtless, is a very mercenary and unworthy motive. But was it not the mercenary motive of our slave states—their devotion to their industrial and economic system—that led them to set up their own system and government, and to fight for it with the ferocity of a mad-dog? Yet now the South, reduced to reason, is the steadiest force in our country. Adjusting itself to new conditions, it is becoming an advocate of protection, though formerly devoted, passionately, to free trade.

Every part of the United States, almost every district, has some special interest for which it desires protection. Combination of these interests is now more probable, even more certain, than ever before. Consolidation of the Union has removed all thought, all possibility, of sectional division on industrial and fiscal questions. Local sentiment tends to combination of all interests for mutual advantage, instead of to hostility of one section of the country against another, to acquire the advantage by force. Therefore, the tariff, though a National question, has, more than ever, become a local question. For the parties to fight over it, in National platforms, has become useless and absurd. Bryan preaches for free trade, or tariff reduction; and the states that give him his electoral votes are among those most devoted to the policy of protection.

There will be some tariff changes, but none of significance. The general policy of protection will be maintained. Yet the theoretical and academical argument against it will remain as strong as ever. It is an argument which, however, never will move those who look at the subject from their own practical view of self-interest. Everybody who produces anything, whether in Louisiana, the Carolinas, Pennsylvania, Maine or Oregon, will vote for protection for it, against all sentimental ideas or arguments to the contrary. Against any attack these protectionists will always combine together—whether they call themselves Republicans or Democrats, Socialists or Prohibitionists, Trinitarians or Unitarians. Even Swift's Big-endians or Little-endians, irreconcilable on the question whether the egg should be broken at one end or the other, will harmonize on protection of their mutual interests, by the tariff.

THE LAW-ABIDING FURUSETH.

Andrew Furuseth, the most dangerous of the political lawsmiths who have hampered the cause of labor on the Pacific Coast, has been taking a prominent part in the American Federation of Labor meeting at Denver. It will surprise no one who has followed the career of this "friend" of labor to find him denouncing the courts, the judges and all other forms of organized society which of course he is always "agin." A Denver account of the proceedings says that "Mr. Furuseth said the union man was a law-abiding citizen, and would not tolerate the breaking of the law on the part of the judiciary." So far as a large part of the union men are concerned, Mr. Furuseth is right in regard to their being law-abiding. The better element of labor does not approve of Mr. Furuseth and his methods, and has become weary of his anarchistic harangues against law and order.

Some of Mr. Furuseth's "law-abiding" followers are even now in trouble in this city, for breaking the law by inducing a number of seamen to desert from the schooner W. H. Talbot, now in this port. In the opinion of Mr. Furuseth, the threatened arrest of his followers will be another outrage and abridgment of the rights of labor. Mr. Furuseth is the great friend of labor, who visited both Salem and Olympia, two years ago, and used what influence he could command to secure repeal of the anti-crimping law in order that his "law-abiding" friends could steal sailors with impunity, and yet be immune from prosecution.

Fortunately for the good name of the port Furuseth was turned down hard, and the fear of arrest or "injunction" has since produced fairly good behavior on the part of the men who sneeze when Andrew takes snuff. Some day, when respectable organized labor becomes tired of bearing such a burden as Furuseth and the law-breaking hoodlums of the Coast Seaman's Union, they will be deprived of the right to appear in the councils of labor, and misrepresent it before the people. It is needless to state that all classes of society will be gainer by such a change.

CONTRAST, NOT PARALLEL.

Two men, of Multnomah County, elected in 1894, under promise to vote for Senator Dolph, refused to vote for him. Dolph was the choice of his party. He was a man of National fame. Everybody knew why these two, with certain other members of the Legislature, refused to vote for him. They "set their particular above the general weal." They disappointed the intent and purpose of the state. The Oregonian spoke with severity of the conduct of these members. They deserved it. But opponents of Dolph, now supporting Chamberlain, who wanted a weak man and their own man in the Senate, approved them.

But none of the Republicans, who, it is now said, are pledged to Chamberlain, are pledged to him in fact. Such pledge as is alleged to have been made was not to Chamberlain. These men supposed they were promising to vote for a member of their own party. They never intended anything else; nor did the members of their own party who voted for them expect anything else.

The members who refused to vote for Dolph still voted for a man of their own party. Open and justly liable as they were to criticism, still their action did not go to the extent of party betrayal. They didn't elect a man of the opposite party.

But what's the use of multiplying words about the present juggle? Everybody understands it; everybody sees through the whole scheme of indirection and deception. The mass of Republican voters who joined in several counties in election of Statement One candidates never expected nor intended that the members should vote for a Democratic Senator. The great Republican majority of Oregon has no more intended nor desired that Chamberlain should be Senator than that Bryan should be President.

PORTLAND NEAR THE HEAD.

The October bulletin of the Department of Commerce and Labor, showing the exports of domestic products for the month of October and for the ten months ending October 31, presents some very interesting figures which account in a considerable degree for the rapid return of prosperity. The value of the October domestic exports, which include breadstuffs, meat and dairy products, food-animals, cotton and mineral oils, was $101,322,246, compared with $99,977,210 for the same month last year. For the ten months, the exports of these products have reached the enormous figure of $699,784,671, an amount that has been exceeded but once since records of the business were kept, and even in that record-breaking year of 1907 the amount was but $18,000,000 in excess of the same period this year.

The report is of special interest to Portland, for it shows that practically one-seventh of all the wheat shipped from American ports was cleared from this city. No other port in the country made such heavy proportionate gains over last season as have been made by Portland. In October shipments, this city advanced from sixth place a year ago to second place this year, New York leading, with Philadelphia third, Baltimore fourth and Puget Sound fifth. For the ten months, Portland is also in second place, with shipments of 11,387,606 bushels compared with 5,380,050 for the same period in 1907. New York leads for the ten months, with 15,524,695 bushels, and Puget Sound by a scant margin beats Philadelphia for third place. In the total value of all breadstuffs, Portland is in fourth place, but shows a greater proportionate gain than any of the other ports.

An interesting feature of the report is the figures showing the heavy decline in flour shipments and increase in wheat shipments for the ten months. Wheat shipments are 80,000,000 bushels compared with 58,000,000 bushels for the corresponding ten months last year. Flour shipments are 2,000,000 barrels less than last year. With flour included on a wheat basis, the total shipments for the ten months were 127,167,395 bushels compared with 114,706,057 bushels last year.

THE NEEDFUL PARTY.

In a thoughtful editorial article the New York Tribune has clearly stated the reasons why Mr. Bryan was defeated and estimated the value of a frankly radical party. The Tribune expresses in other words what The Oregonian has said more than once that the trouble with Bryanism is its lack of candid purpose. It is neither fish nor flesh, neither conservative nor radical. The much-defeated leader tried in the late campaign to pose as an adherent of old economic ideas, while at the same time he fought for radical innovations upon them. Of course he was unconscious of this contradiction, but the people felt it clearly enough.

One of the best results that could flow from Mr. Bryan's defeat would be the virtual dissolution of his heterogeneous and ineffective party which, as it exists, has no purpose and can never attain one, has no power and does not deserve any. The vanguard of the Democrats, marching boldly into the field, would attract multitudes of unflinching radicals. The rear guard might profitably commit suicide. The new party, active, purposeful, daring, might criticise the Republicans to excellent purpose and with a sincerity which the current opposition sadly lacks. Such a party would prevent any relapse into Bourbonsim, and even if it did not come into power for many years it would hold the dominant party strictly to its duties. What we need more than anything else in our politics is a virile and courageous party of ideas and experiment to offset the party of conservatism. Both are needed to keep public life wholesome, and when either is lacking the country suffers.

Considerable complaint is being made by masters and pilots of ocean steamers coming to Portland regarding lack of proper lights along the river channel. In the old days, when the light and buoy problem was much more difficult than now, the old steamer Shubrick, slow and difficult to handle, covered the district from Alaska to Coos Bay in a manner quite satisfactory to navigators who made use of the channels that were buoyed and lighted. Since then the district has been provided with three tenders, and better channels have made it much easier to keep the service in good shape. With deep-draft ships such as are now coming to the port at all hours of the night, the best possible light and buoy service should be supplied, and there is no apparent reason why it is not in evidence.

RIVER AND RAIL POLICY.

The Oregonian's policy regarding improvement of the Columbia River is as old and as thoroughly established as The Oregonian itself. This paper was urging improvement of the Columbia River fifty-six years ago, when St. Helens Bar was such a troublesome barrier to our commerce that for a time most of the vessels entering the Columbia River refused to ascend the river above St. Helens. It was urging Columbia River improvement half a dozen years later, when the barkentine Jane A. Falkenberg broke all records by reaching Portland with "an enormous cargo of 530 tons." It was advocating further improvements along in the "seventies," when the foreign shipowners reduced from 20 shillings per ton to 10 shillings the differential against this port in favor of San Francisco. It was still demanding river improvements when nearly one-half of the wheat of the Inland Empire that went foreign, had to be lightered to Astoria at an expense of from $1.50 to $2 per ton, which, added to the 10 shillings differential, placed the Inland Empire farmer at a disadvantage of about $4 per ton as compared with his California competitor.

In its advocacy of river improvements, The Oregonian was at all times supported and encouraged by the people of Portland, by C. H. Lewis, Ladd, Reed, Corbett, Failing and other famous builders who laid well the foundation for Portland's present greatness. Later, when this improvement began showing results and it was possible for medium-sized carriers to reach Portland without lightering, demand was made for upper river improvements, rail rates at that time being more than double those now in force. The Cascade Locks is an important and useful improvement, which The Oregonian supported; and yet it was notorious that this work held back for years the more important work on the bar and lower river. Before these locks were completed, the increasing size of vessels which could reach rival ports, but could not safely enter the Columbia River, compelled The Oregonian and the people of Portland to center their efforts at the entrance of the Columbia, and as a result the jetty was built.

The Oregonian, without regard to the criticism of biased rainbow-chasers, proposes to continue its old policy regarding river improvements. That policy always has demanded and always will demand that precedence in these improvements be given the Columbia bar. Fifty feet of water from Astoria to Portland, and an unobstructed river through to Lewiston will be of no avail, if large carriers cannot enter the river. Next in importance is a deep channel from Portland to Astoria, for no other carrier in existence can move freight over that hundred-mile stretch of water at as low a cost as it is moved in the large ocean freighters. Having thus made it possible for the products of the Inland Empire to pass on to the high seas at a minimum cost, it will be the duty of Portland to center her energies on improvement of the upper river, although the benefits resulting from upper river improvement can never equal those which have followed and will continue to follow improvement of the channel from Portland to the sea.

The Port of Portland is spending about $200,000 per year in dredging a channel between Portland and the sea. The money for this work is raised by taxing the people of Portland and of a small strip of Multnomah County outside the city limits. The work has been so successful that the average carrying capacity of vessels now coming to Portland is more than 2000 tons greater than it was before the improvement began. Big cargoes mean cheap freights, and the producers throughout the Columbia Basin have profited by the deepening of the channel that was accomplished with Portland money. But, while Portland has for many years been spending money to improve a channel through which floats the products of that vast territory known as the Inland Empire, there has been no assistance from other parts of the state, and only a trifling amount from the Government.

It was perhaps unjust that Portland should carry this burden alone, but it was necessary that somebody should carry it, and the responsibility was assumed by the Portland taxpayers. The difficulty in securing sufficient money from year to year to make the work of a permanent nature has resulted in much dredging having to be done over and over again year after year. Permanent revetments or bulkheads will eventually be necessary in order to escape this annual expense. There was general expectation that these permanent improvements would be provided for in the next river and harbor bill. We find, however, in the Chief Engineer's recommendations for the Columbia River appropriation, that it is "deemed inadvisable" to ask for any appropriation for the needed permanent improvements "while expensive work is in progress at the mouth of the Columbia and at Celilo."

There is no questioning the immediate necessity for the $450,000 asked for the mouth of the Columbia, and there is not a taxpayer in Portland who would protest against the $1,000,000 for the Celilo Canal, if the vastly more important work between Portland and the sea were taken up. As matters now stand, Portland taxpayers must continue to put up money to maintain a channel for the products of the entire Columbia Basin, because so much of the Government money is required for the Celilo Canal. This is not a good business policy either for Portland or for the Inland Empire. That vast region lying east of the Cascade Mountains is as much interested in cheap ocean freights as is Portland, and the canal even when completed will be useless if we fail to keep the channel from Portland to the sea deepened to meet the requirements of shipping in which the average size of the vessels is steadily increasing.

The completion of the North-Bank road gives the products of the Inland Empire access to tidewater markets over a water-level line on both sides of the Columbia. If these roads charge excessive or unreasonable rates the offense is easily proven and the remedy not difficult to apply. This insures a good service to and from the territory lying east of the Cascade Mountains; but until the work of improving the Columbia River is completed, so that the largest freighters afloat can enter it in safety, the Columbia River will be handicapped.

The question of distributive rates out of Portland has very little in common with this matter. Whether these rates are reasonable or unreasonable can never be determined by operating, at a loss, a portage railroad and a steamboat line established by popular subscriptions, but in no way attractive as a business proposition for any one well versed in transportation. It is well for people who have the interests of the city and state at heart to view these matters from a strictly business standpoint and not be misled by the blind, unreasoning prejudice which has brought on the present squabble that is about to deprive Portland of trade to which she is legitimately entitled and which can be done at Portland with more advantage to the country than at any other point.

Weird, ancient and strictly Oriental was the barbarous exhibition of formal etiquette which surrounded the rulers of China as, clothed in their official robes, they awaited the coming of death. The pagan scenes depicted in the cable accounts of the last hours of Tsi An and the Emperor seem strange and unreal in these days of twentieth-century civilization; but one chord was struck in the story from Pekin which appeared in yesterday's Oregonian that shows that human nature is still the same, no matter where we find it. That chord was sounded in the paragraph which said that "Pu Yi, the baby Emperor, has been taken from his family and is cared for within the palace precincts. He is popularly reported crying day and night for his old nurse." And that cry of poor little Pu Yi, which is the same in all languages and among all peoples, brings with it all of the woe that is suffered by any 3-year-old deprived of his nurse, guardian or parent, whether the separation takes place in hovel or palace. Under the skin and beneath the shadow of centuries of tradition the Chinese are tolerably human, after all.

"Railroad regulation run riot" would seem to fit the case of the New York Commission ruling which prohibits the railroads from running demonstration trains in the interest of the farmers of the state. The practice is the same as that so successfully conducted by the O. R. & N. Co. and the Southern Pacific in the Pacific Northwest, and the resultant benefits are of great value to the farmers, and of course incidentally to all others who share in the farmer's prosperity. The Erie Railroad, which Mr. Harriman is slowly awakening from its slumber, had planned to run a special train through the central and southern part of New York, carrying with it a corps of instructors from the Cornell Agricultural College. The Public Utilities Commission, however, decided that this would be violation of the law which prohibits issuance of passes, and the train has accordingly been canceled. There is much idiocy displayed by some of the Western Railroad Commissions in their railroad regulation orders, but none of them have yet reached the degree attained by the New York Commission.

A Chinese loan of $10,000,000 was heavily oversubscribed in London Thursday, and the same day a $20,000,000 subscription to Philippine Railway Company bonds was closed in London and Amsterdam, at 4 per cent. This loan also was heavily oversubscribed. These transactions prove quite conclusively that there is plenty of money available for investment whenever foreigners are satisfied that they will be protected. The swing of the big stick, in which good and bad alike suffered last year, has for a time frightened foreign capital away from American investments, but confidence is gradually being restored and it will be but a short time before some of this cheap money will again be flowing in this direction. The opportunities for capital are better in America than anywhere else. This fact has been recognized in the past, and it will again be recognized in the near future.

In 1905 the people of the United States used more than 3,000,000 tons of paper in the form of magazines, newspapers, books, boxes and other products of the paper mills. This is at the rate of 10,000 tons every working day. Farmers of the great corn belt are watching anxiously the efforts of Government chemists who are working on the problem of making paper from corn stalks. The success of this experiment would add several million dollars a year to the income of the farmers of the great corn states, especially of Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma, where nearly 20,000,000 acres of corn are now ready for gathering.

"If Chamberlain now should be defeated, let the Republican party be assured there will be something doing hereafter." So a Statement One organ. Why, certainly. But what can you do more than you are doing now, under Statement One? You are getting the whole business. Do you expect more than the whole?

It ought not to disgrace a legislator to do at Salem what the state's and the Nation's best interests at Washington need, and there should be no higher duty than honorably to serve those interests in the way every true Republican knows ought to be done.

Persons who growl at the overdue wet weather do not know that farmers have needed every raindrop to soften the hard ground for their plows; also that for five months there was steady dry weather, except for a shower or two.

The Southern Pacific called the Mayor's and the Council's bluff on Fourth street. The city officials would better have stayed out, hey?

They say that the promoters of a new city tract on the Peninsula will immortalize one of its streets by calling it Waymire Lane.—

The Yamhill County apple show will be held at McMinnville Friday and Saturday of next week. "Yamhill ag'in the world."

There are at least 40 streets in East Portland that could form improvement clubs to ask for as many river bridges.

Every drop of rain brings a unit of heat from the south. That's why we and the grass are so comfortable.

The politicians still have something left; they can organize the Legislature.

SENATORIAL PLEDGE IS VOID

Legislator Cannot Thus Divest Himself of His Proper Function.

PORTLAND, Nov. 20.—(To the Editor.)—I have been requested to give my opinion as to the applicability to and the effect of the decision of the Supreme Court of North Dakota upon the so-called Statement No. 1 contained in our primary election law. I will comply briefly with the request. Assuming that the North Dakota decision is good law, which seems to be generally conceded, it must be admitted, for that is the substance and effect of the decision, that an act of legislation which exacts from a candidate for the Legislature a pledge that he will vote in a particular way in the election of a Senator in Congress is unconstitutional and void, and if the law is void it follows as a matter of course that the pledge imposed upon the candidate by such law is also void. It is argued that the North Dakota decision does not apply to Oregon because here the candidate has an option to take or not to take the pledge; but the objection does not touch the question involved. The precise question is, what is the legal effect of the pledge after it is taken? Is the pledge then legally binding or not? If the pledge exacted by the Legislature is void, why is not a pledge voluntarily taken by the candidate void? Both, if valid, produce precisely the same results; both equally deprive the member of the Legislature of his right to exercise his judgment in the election of Senator.

A candidate elected to the Legislature tied hand and foot by an ante-election promise that he will vote in a particular way in the election of Senator is nothing more nor less than an automaton as to such election, and a wooden man with machinery in him compelling him to vote in a particular way would fill the bill. When the voters of a county say to a candidate for the Legislature, we will not vote for you unless you take Statement No. 1, they exact a pledge which is as obnoxious to the law as a similar pledge would be exacted by the Legislature.

I hold, with due deference to the opinion of others, that a candidate for the Legislature has no legal right to make a pledge before his election that he will vote for any particular man for United States Senator, or in any particular way upon that subject, because the Constitution of the United States providing for the election of Senators in Congress invests him with a quasi-judicial function of which he cannot divest himself by an ante-election pledge, any more than a candidate for the Supreme Court can divest himself of his judicial functions by promising if he is elected to decide some case of public importance in a particular way.

I venture to say that every Republican member of the Legislature, if he was free to exercise his judgment, would vote to elect a Republican to the United States Senate; yet he is not free with Statement No. 1, but goes into the Legislature manacled and bound to vote contrary to his own political principles for a Democrat. The Constitution of the United States provides that the Senate "shall be composed of two Senators **chosen by the Legislature thereof.**" In defining the word "choose," the Century Dictionary says that it "always represents an act of the will. It is the taking of one or some where all are not wanted or cannot be had." Do the members of the Legislature "choose" a Senator when they go into the Legislature bound hand and foot and can do nothing but ratify the choice of a Senator made by persons outside of the Legislature?

I do not question the right of the people to express at the polls their preference for a United States Senator, nor do I question the right of a member of the Legislature to act in accordance with this expressed preference, if it meets with his judgment; but under no circumstances can such expressed preference be otherwise than advisory. The point I make is that an ante-election pledge made by a candidate for the Legislature to vote in a particular way in the election of Senator is unconstitutional and void, because it divests him of a power expressly conferred upon him by the Constitution of the United States, which cannot be delegated or exercised by any other person or persons.

One word as to the policy of the primary election law providing for these pledges: In these days, when candidates for office nominate themselves and it is just as easy for the biggest loafer as it is for the best man in the community to become a candidate in the primary election, and when nobody can tell in the scramble for office who will come out on top, these pledges are fraught with danger. To take them is to take a leap into the dark. They ought to be abolished.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS.

NEW YORK'S U. S. SENATORS

Of the Last 13, No Less Than 10 Have Been Republicans, Since 1861.

Rochester (N. Y.) Post-Express.

The following table shows the Senators from New York State since the inauguration of the first Republican President:

Senators.	Elected.	To succeed.
Ira Harris	1861	Seward
Edwin D. Morgan	1863	King
Roscoe Conkling	1867	Harris
Reuben E. Fenton	1869	Morgan
Roscoe Conkling	1873	Himself
Francis Kernan	1875	Fenton
Roscoe Conkling	1879	Himself
Thomas C. Platt	1881	Kernan
Warner Miller	1881	Platt
E. G. Lapman	1881	Conkling
William M. Evarts	1885	Lapham
Frank Hiscock	1887	Miller
David B. Hill	1891	Evarts
Edward Murphy, Jr.	1893	Hiscock
Thomas C. Platt	1897	Hill
Chauncey M. Depew	1899	Murphy
Thomas C. Platt	1903	Himself
Chauncey M. Depew	1905	Himself

Of these 13 Senators no less than ten were Republicans, the only Democrats that have been in the Senate of the United States from New York in nearly half a century being Kernan, Hill and Murphy. Neither was re-elected. Mr. Conkling and Mr. Platt were the only Senators elected three times; Depew has been elected twice; no other Senator more than once. Of the 13 Senators nearly half are still living—Platt, Miller, Hiscock, Hill, Murphy and Depew.

A FEW SENTENTIOUS REMARKS.

Calling a man a four-flusher is far easier than making up your mind to call a man when you think he's four-flushing.—Detroit Free Press.

"Beware when God lets loose a thinker," says Emerson. Beware, also, when he lets loose a talker who doesn't think.—Baltimore Sun.

The Emperor of China is dead, but it will be a long time before about 300,000,000 of the people of that nation find it out.—Los Angeles Times.

Mr. Taft wanted to be the biggest Judge in the land; Mrs. Taft insisted that he would accept a position which would make her the first lady in the land. He gave way and she is a winner. Husbands, obey your wives.—Buffalo Express.

"What a splendid device the camera is for the convenience of tourists." "Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox, "the next time I go abroad I'm going to anchor in Paris or Vienna and send a hired man around the continent to take snap shots."—Washington Star.

ALL THE SOUTH WEARY OF BRYAN

Many Democrats Did Not Vote—Virginia and the Plurality Primary.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Nov. 11.—(To the Editor.)—I have been very much surprised at the feeling which exists in the South with regard to Hon. William Jennings Bryan.

You meet Democrats every day who declare that they didn't go to the polls, as they wouldn't vote for Bryan and were not ready to become Republicans, although they wanted Taft elected. Strange to say, this feeling is not confined to the business element, although it is stronger there. I find it among laborers in sawmills, draymen, and even farmers. As showing this feeling, I inclose you two clippings from the News-Leader of November 10, a Democratic paper of Richmond, Va., which is similar to many articles which appear in Southern Democratic papers and which may have escaped your attention, and yet these men seem to be of the opinion that Mr. Bryan will be the candidate in 1912 and seem to regard it as one of the evils that they must submit to. If Mr. Taft gives the country a successful administration, as I believe he will, and Mr. Bryan is again the candidate against him, you may look for a break in the South that will surprise the natives.

S. B. HUSTON.

Dangers in Virginia.

Richmond (Va.) News-Leader.

In a very strong editorial article the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot assails "the officials and committees having in charge the machinery of the Democratic party" in Virginia. It excepts the Richmond city committee, which it says did good work, but continues:

The state committee inaugurated a perfunctory canvass in the closing days of the campaign, but only a handful of speakers—present office-holders and aspirants for future honors—were called into service. If there was any of the solicitous supervision of local conditions formerly exercised from headquarters no signs of it were manifest. Not even the usual exhortation to loyalty and activity of effort was sounded. It migh be instructive to inquire how many members of the state executive committee, as last announced, gave their votes to the National ticket, and whether these chosen lieutenants of the state chairman were ever called together after the Denver convention put forth its nominees and platform. Outside of the Ninth and Fifth the district committees appear to have exhausted their functions when they had arranged for the party primaries, while in the Second the committee deliberately relaxed the primary rules to fit the declaration of one of its members that "Hundreds of true and loyal Democrats would not vote for Bryan." If the city committee of Norfolk took any steps to awaken the interest of the voters or bring them to the polls, their action was taken with a secrecy which escaped public attention.

Really there was no need for the State Committee to exert itself or to undertake the expense and exertion of a long and warm campaign. It would have been a waste of ammunition. Outside the Fifth and Ninth Districts the Republicans made no serious fight and the marked defection was confined to a few of the larger cities. It was most evident in Richmond and here the local forces of the party were able to handle the situation. No power could drive to the polls men who did not want to go or prevent Democrats in every county and at almost every precinct in the state from cutting Mr. Bryan. Probably the State Committee had no money. Really the enthusiasm for Mr. Bryan was all on the surface and expended itself in talk. When contributions were called for the people gave reluctantly, the total remittances from this state to the National Executive Committee being less than $4000, we believe, of which nearly $2000 was raised in Richmond. Most of the men on whom the Democratic party of the state heretofore have depended for funds were against Mr. Bryan and unwilling to contribute a dollar for his election. It is all very well to rail against commercialism and wealth, but when we freeze out of the party all the rich men and the plain people decline to come across, campaign committees are paralyzed.

Bryan's Self-Glorification.

In the current number of the Commoner, Mr. Bryan's weekly, issued two days after the election, we get a vivid insight into the Bryan point of view. The leading article has ten lines telling of the Democratic disaster in the country, and 36 lines describing the Bryan triumphs in Nebraska, the city of Lincoln and the voting precinct of Normal, Mr. William Jennings Bryan's home precinct. Nothing by way of regret to sympathy for the millions of disappointed and defeated Democratic voters and workers; glory and glorification because Mr. Bryan, for the first time, carried his own precinct and his own city.

There is some suggestion of consolation, however, in the Commoner's cartoon. Over the word "Onward!" it represents four depressed and emaciated soldiers marching past a mile stone bearing the figures "1908." We are relieved to see that the infantry officer leading them, carrying a flag in his right hand and a cavalry sabre in his left, is not Mr. Bryan. It is a slim man with a moustache. If Mr. Bryan has to present to us in 1912 as a Presidential candidate a slim man with a moustache the change will be welcome. We are a little weary of a fat man with a smooth face and an impressive mouth.

SECRET OF JEWISH LONGEVITY

Soberness of Living and Inheritance of Wise Hygienic Rule.

Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette.

Superficial scrutiny of the vital statistics yields the Jew a prominent position in the sanitary world, if longevity serves as an index of hygienic living. With the average length of life for all Christian people placed at 36 years, 11 months (1900) the Jew may hope to reach 48 years, nine months. Neufville (1855), inquiring into the comparative duration of life and causes of death of Jews and Christians in Frankfort, learned that one-fourth of the Jewish population was living beyond 71 years, while only one-fourth of their neighbors was living beyond the age of 59 years, 10 months. Abbott claims that "they (i. e., Jews) are much less frequently the subjects of tubercular and acute epidemic diseases than any other race of mankind."

Why should this seeming vital superiority exist? According to Richardson "the causes are simply summed up in the term 'soberness of life.' The Jew drinks less than his 'even Christian;' he takes as a rule better food, he marries earlier; he rears the children he has brought into the world with greater personal care; he tends the aged more thoughtfully; he takes better care of his poor and he takes better care of himself." To this might have been added that through religious customs hygienic tendencies became an inheritance.

Jersey Gander Says "Yes" and "No."

New York Press.

A gander that can say "yes" and "no," march to command, kiss his owner when ordered to do so, and many other amusing and remarkable tricks, is the pet of Miss Marguerite Van Duyne, 14 years old, daughter of Frank Van Duyne, of Passaic Valley farm, Montville, N. J. The girl herself trained the gander.

Dandy is the gander's name, and he follows the girl all about the farm. When she is in school he goes about with the farmhands and acts lonesome. The greatest trick Dandy has mastered is to distinguish between "yes" and "no." He gives two quacks in one key for "yes," and two in an entirely different key for "no." At the girl's command he will march sedately with wings furled, or spread them as though ready to do battle.

Dandy's mother was a tamed Canadian wild goose, and he was sired by a Toulouse gander. He was the only offspring from a setting of 12 eggs. The mother was shot by Van Duyne on a hunting trip on the Passaic River several years ago, but the bullet only broke the bird's wing. He brought the goose home, and, after recovering from her hurt, she became domesticated. At Dandy's birth the little girl took an interest in him and made a pet of him.

IGNORANCE OF THE BIBLE

Moses Becoming a Shadowy Personage and Hosea Is Forgotten.

New York Evening Post.

The Bible is being forgotten. A Sunday-school youth describes the prodigal son as the one which rises in the West and sets in the East. Moses has become as shadowy a personage as the most destructive critic makes him out to be. Hosea is the man hiding under a robe in the Boston Public Library. College men hunt for the books of Hezekiah, and call Corinthians a form of architecture. Therefore, we are assured by many lovers of the great book, the world is waxing ungodly; and from ungodliness will soon fall into moral decay unless the Bible is restored to the family breakfast table and the schoolmaster's desk. The warning sounds plausible. For centuries the central pillar in our moral edifice, the Scriptures, cannot be suddenly removed without bringing down roof and dome, it might seem. And yet is not something awry in the Bible champions' theory?

Before inferring too much from our inability to stumble through the Decalogue, it would be well to look about for parallel cases of gross ignorance. We are advised that it is "an anticlimax of culture to be sent forth into life well informed with regard to Shakespeare and Milton, but unacquainted with Isaiah and Jesus." Very true; but where is the anticlimax to be found in real life? The average schoolboy or college graduate knows fully as much about the religious classics as he does about the secular ones, to wit, a few great names, a sonorous phrase or two, et praeterea nihil. The prodigal son is, as a Biblical character, about equal in interest and dramatic position to, let us say, "the rugged Pyrrhus;" but the latter's friends are a handful against the small regiment that knows the former. Ruth looms no larger in the Old Testament than Miranda in Stratford Scriptures; yet who dares say the Moabitess is the more forgotten? Oblivion has claimed Habakkuk and Amos not a whit more victorious than the fair Dulcinea del Toboso and Cacus—but of the multiplying of instances there is no end. In truth, literary intimacies have gone out of vogue; yes, even fallen into disrepute.

To move resistlessly in polite society one must not know too much or too little of anything that would hinder conversation. And to shine in the haunts of higher culture one must know too much about some one thing and nothing about everything else; for that is true scholarship. Between skimming and grubbing there is no middle way, down which any self-respecting member of contemporary society may trudge.

As for the ungodliness which the decline of Bible reading is supposed to indicate, it is on parity with the barbarism that some would see in prevalent literary ignorance.

AMERICAN PETROLEUM.

One of the Greatest Assets of the Country.

According to Dr. David T. Day of the United States Geological Survey, in a report just issued, the production of American petroleum in 1907 calendar year was 166,095,335 barrels, valued at $120,106,749. Since 1859 the United States has produced 1,806,658,463 barrels, worth $1,654,877,685. This year will bring the production for 39 years up to 2,000,000,000 barrels, with a more than proportionate increase in the total value, as oil is not getting cheaper, but the contrary, owing to the large and rapidly increasing demand for crude petroleum, for manufacturing, railway and ship-fuel purposes.

Since the discovery of petroleum in various states the total productions have been:

States.	Barrels.
Pennsylvania and New York since 1859	687,425,409
Ohio, since 1876	336,250,105
California, since 1876	201,065,825
West Virginia, since 1876	185,039,718
Texas, since 1889	117,819,901
Indiana, since 1889	90,127,311
Kansas, since 1889 (and Oklahoma since 1905)	85,881,278
Illinois, since 1889	28,866,683
Louisiana, since 1902	27,413,511
Colorado, since 1887	8,874,285
Kentucky and Tennessee, since 1883	5,276,573
Oklahoma, from 1891 to 1904	1,566,313
Wyoming, since 1894	85,785
Missouri, since 1889 (including Michigan)	21,471

The oil states got for their oil in 1907:

Oklahoma and Kansas	$18,478,638
Pennsylvania	17,579,706
Illinois	16,432,947
West Virginia	15,852,428
Ohio	14,769,558
California	14,699,956
Texas	10,401,865
Indiana	4,536,930
Louisiana	4,063,033
New York	2,127,748
Kentucky and Tennessee	862,306
Colorado	272,813
Utah, Wyoming, Michigan and Missouri	28,383

Winston Churchill's Jest.

London Opinion.

A joke of Mr. Winston Churchill's at the expense of a self-opinionated army officer has just been recalled. The incident occurred during a dinner in South Africa, and Mr. Churchill and the officer were seated side by side. Throughout the meal the latter was airing his views, until at last Churchill could stand it no longer. "Do you know," he said quietly, "I met a man today who would gladly forfeit £50 for the pleasure of being able to kick you!"

"To kick me, sir!" exclaimed the astonished soldier. "I must ask you to tell me his name at once!"

"Oh," replied Winston, "it was a poor young fellow in the hospital who had lost both his legs by the bursting of a shell."

BITS OF PLEASANTRY.

THEIR DIFFERENT SPELLING—Now, girls, I want you all to take pencil and paper and to write down the names of your favorite hymns. Pause. Interrupted by a piping voice, "Please, teacher, is it their surnames or their Christian names we are to write?"—London News.

MARY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS—Mrs. B.—I suppose you find your daughter very much improved by her two years' stay at college?

Mrs. Proudmother—La' yes. Mary Ellizabeth is a carnivorous reader now, and she frequently impoverishes music. But she ain't a bit stuck up—she's unanimous to everybody, an' she never keeps a caller waitin' for her to dress; she just runs in nom de plume, an' you know that makes one feel so comfortable.—Tit Bits.

DEMOCRATS AT A DISCOUNT—Charles Allen, an Arkansas planter, who enjoys the distinction of being the only white Republican in his section of the state, has in his employ an aged negro known as Uncle Reuben, who "fit fur de Union endurin' de wah."

For some time the old man had been endeavoring to secure a pension from the Government for this service. A few days ago, as Mr. Allen was riding by a field where he was plowing, Uncle Reuben hailed him with the words:

"Marse, I'se done got my pension, an' I wants to swear to it befoh you."

"Glad to hear that, Uncle Reuben, but you must do your swearing before a magistrate. 'Squire McCabe is the man for you to see."

"Now, marse, quit tryin' to fool ole Reub. My lil gal, who goes to school an' kin read writin', done read me from dose papahs dat I mus' swar to dem befoh a notorious Republican, an' dem what you is, kase ever' one knows dat 'Squire McCabe am a Democrat."—St. Louis Republic.

HIGH-CLASS WATCHDOG — Gentleman (to dog dealer)—I gave you a high price for this dog last week because you warranted it to be a good housedog. My house was broken into last night, and the dog never even barked.

Dog Dealer—No, sir, I quite believes yer. He was too busy lookin' at the burglars, so as to be able to identify 'em, to even think of barkin'. If you was out with this 'ere dog, and was to meet them burglars, he'd know 'em in a minute. He ain't no common barkin' dog; he's a reg'ler 'tectic, an' worth his weight in gold, he is.—Tit-Bits.